

2nd RAPID ANALYSIS

How are female garment factory workers during COVID-19

About this survey:

CARE Bangladesh has conducted the mobile based 1st Rapid Analysis in April'20 to understand COVID-19 impacts on lives and livelihoods of female factory workers. That study reveals, 25% doesn't know protection measures, 35% feels uncertain about salary, 35% faced food shortage, 28% were getting fear to loose job and 91% were suffering from anxiety. 2nd Rapid Analysis is a follow-up survey on the same target group keeping the same objective, looking into more deep-dive issues.



Profile info.



88% respondents are 18-30 years of old



40% are working from 1.5 to 3 years and **23%** are from 6 months to within 1.5 years



76% have mobile banking account i.e. **bKash**



72% have **National ID**

METHOD: Mobile based Data Collection



300 women garment workers of Gazipur City



Random Sampling



Kobo Toolbox used



91% reduced food cost to balance salary deduction





63% stopped financial support to parents / in-laws to balance salary deduction



12% received “partial salary (**60%**)” in March'20 but in April'20 it's **94%**

Employment and Workplace


 **41%** of who are employed (256), not confident to retain job during and after COVID-19


 **44%** of who are unemployed (27), were not allowed to work since they came back from village after holiday

- Factory management refrained **17 surveyed workers** from working due to having low order from buyers, illness of workers and leave etc. Moreover, respondents are assuming that at any time factory can declare laid-off. So the workers are “**not sure**” about their **employment status**.

- **1 in 4** employed workers are not getting the same facilities as before. **Festival bonus, overtime & snacks bill** facilities were cut-off.


- **93%** mentioned factories took special measures for protection of COVID-19


 **59%** received protection gears i.e. mask, gloves from factories

 **69%** mentioned about hand washing and sanitization facilities

- Only **35%** and **30%** mentioned on sensitization and medical support arranged by factories respectively

Practicing of Protection Measures


 **96%** respondents correctly mentioned protection measures i.e. frequently hand washing, wearing mask & gloves and maintaining social distance.


 Respondent washes hand more frequently when they stay home than workplace. Few of them faces challenges:

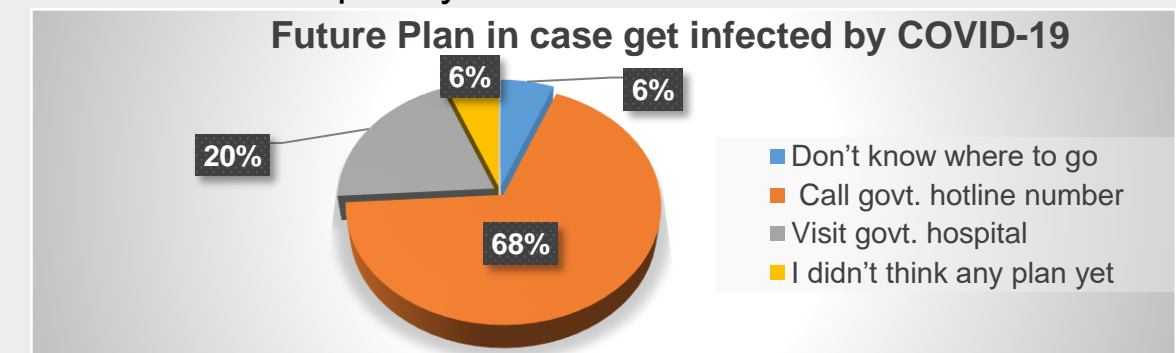
At home: Maintaining serial due to limited hand washing facilities and water scarcity


At Workplace: Workload is high to get time for frequently hand washing

Though respondents mentioned social distancing as protection measures but in practice it's not strictly followed.

 **54%** wear mask “**sometimes**” when they move outside.

 **69%** still continued to visit relatives/neighbor's home at “less frequently”



 **91%** respondents will inform factory management if they get infected in COVID-19

Food Security and Nutrition



only **1 in 3** has taken 3 meals in a day



2 in 3 has taken only 2 meals in a day



96% has cut down food cost



97% has cut food consume pattern

Food consumption reduction by items



only **6%** has ability to meet food expenses for more than one month by savings. But **54%** has ability for 7-15 days only.

Challenges in getting food

1. Financial crisis-- having limited cash in hand
2. Due to general holiday, markets are open for limited time for which public gathering happens and very tough to maintain social distance

GBV and Care Burden

- **60%** reported on increased household work at home

Activities that are performed other than normal time:

1. Washing clothes for all family members
2. Taking more care to kids and older family members



37% reported to increased conflicts and tension at home



51% conflicts happened due to household chores, going outside, mental pressure etc.

- **28%** reported these experiences "more frequent" than before COVID




32% reported harassment by house owner, **7%** by local people



57% did not face any harassment and violence



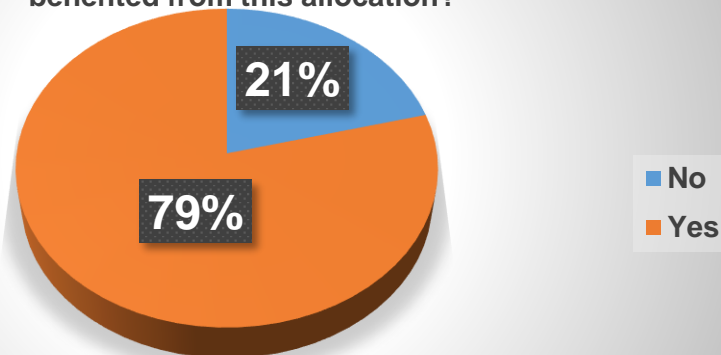
Service Received

 **93%** did not receive any support/ relief during COVID-19

In food consumption pattern, workers food habit changed but still they are out of food rationing program.

 **88%** respondents are informed about govt. incentives to the factory owners

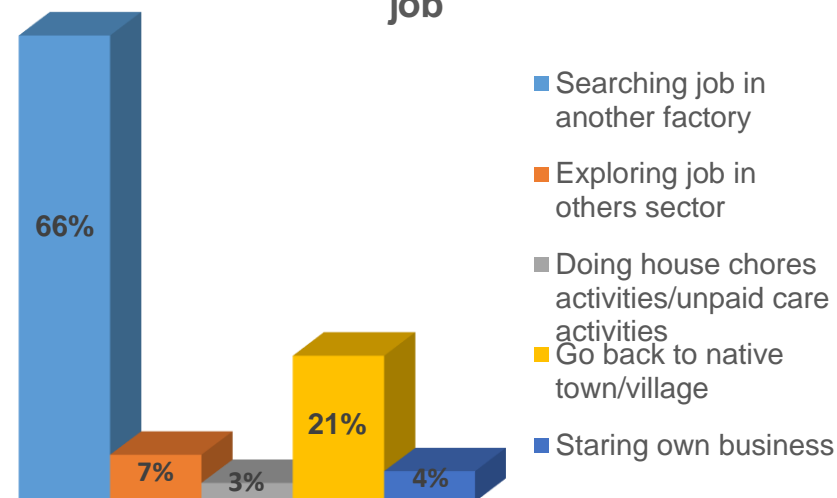
Perception from respondents: Would workers be benefited from this allocation?



Though 79% has trust on factory management but still 21% has lack of reliance on factory management. These respondents feel govt. incentives may not use for the betterment of workers.

Future Employment Concern

Future plan if factory close down/cut the job



If a worker loose job, then top 1 impact would be:

- **Unable to afford family expenses specially food**



83% reported to financial assistance



Other supports required to increase awareness on social distancing, providing protective gears and basic health service

